

# THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK

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NO. 20

## CONVENTION IS CALLED BY THE COMMITTEE—CONGRESSMAN SELLS DENOUNCES SHIPLEY TO HIS FACE

Says That the Republicans of the First District Are to be Used as An Asset of John I. Cox and the Regular Democracy of the State.

Sells Told the Chairman That He Wanted the People of the District to Know What Kind of a Dirty Job Was Being Put Up on Them—Clyde McMahan Voted for a Convention, Ignoring a Petition of 1200 Cocke County Voters.

First district Republicans gathered at Bulls Gap Saturday, where the stormiest session of the committee in its history was held—where the road roller was put in operation by John I. Cox and manned by Shipley, and a convention was ordered by ex-post-masters and John I. Cox Republicans for the purpose of defeating Congressman Sells. Feeling of the bitterest kind was manifested and the climax of the sensational meeting came when Congressman Sells denounced Chairman Shipley to his face; told him that he was acting as the tool of John I. Cox and that he had been disloyal to his party.

Congressman Sells did not take the floor until after the committee had shown its determination to steal from him the representation he desired, and not until after many speeches had been made. Alf Taylor told the committee that the people of the First district, thirty-five per cent of whom could be bought and sold at the polls, had no business to have a primary. Major Devine told the committee that Col. Taylor's figures of thirty-five per cent were entirely too low and that the figure should be higher. Judge Campbell, too, talked of the corruption which has been going on in the First district in past primaries. All of these gentlemen favored a convention.

Speaking for a primary, J. R. Gardner of Johnson City denied that thirty-five per cent of the voters of the First district could be bought. R. R. Donnelly of Johnson county thought that Col. Taylor, Major Devine and Judge Campbell had offered an insult to the people of the First district and he dared them to take the stump in a political campaign and tell the voters that they could be handled, each, for just so much per head.

Both Mr. Gardner and Mr. Donnelly sounded words of warning to the committee, telling them that the committee by calling a convention was playing into the hands of the Regular Democrats who wanted a split; that Gov. Hooper's election was being endan-

## WHAT SAM SELLS SAID TO SHIPLEY

Congressman Sells arraigned Chairman Shipley before the congressional committee.

He accused him of being in collusion with John I. Cox to turn the district over to the regular Democrats and to make the Republican party an asset of the regular democracy of the state.

His remarks were greeted with rounds of applause, and it was apparent that majority of those present were in sympathy with him.

In part Congressman Sells said: "I had not intended to appear before you gentlemen today. It has been generally understood that I would stand for reelection and that I, as well as the people of the district, were in favor of an honest primary.

"I see that your verdict has already been declared although you have as yet taken no vote.

I see that you intend to thwart the wishes of the people of this district.

I have never received the report of this committee, although I was your representative and was your nominee.

"Your work here today is the result of the handwork of John I. Cox. I am fully acquainted, Mr. Chairman, with the caucuses you have been having with John Isaac recently.

Mr. Sells was very indignant at this

point and pointing his finger at Shipley, and standing within a foot of him he said: "I charge that you, even through chairman of the republican committee of this district, last year after I had been nominated by over 5,000 majority endeavored to get out an independent candidate against me. Do you deny it? I charge that you endeavored to call this committee together for the express purpose of getting out a candidate, and I can prove it by members of this committee. Do you deny it?"

In continuing Mr. Sells said: "It was your duty to support me; I had the right to expect your support."

Again Mr. Shipley told Mr. Sells he was out of order and that the question was not debatable.

This did not daunt the congressman, who still quivering with rage, finding it difficult to coin his words said: "I have the right to show the people of this state what a dirty job you are trying to put up on me and the people. You are trying to use your power as chairman of this committee to aid John I. Cox and the regular democrats of the state and all I can say is: To hell with such politics and damn such a republican as you are Mr. Chairman."

gered and that just such a condition was wanted by John I. Cox, who was dictating the policy of the committee. Both speakers said that the man wanting a convention was, apparently, afraid of the people, and that they should remember that it would be the dear people who would have to be considered at the polls.

Cocke county's part in the convention was small. Clyde McMahan did not give away his proxy, but went to the meeting himself, accompanied by Dr. J. Walter McMahan. He attended the council of John I. Cox Republican. He appeared in the committee, opened his mouth, only to vote yes or no, as did Major Devine ahead of him, while Dr. J. Walter was named as assistant secretary, so he would have been a part of the committee, if it had gone into executive session, as was planned by Shipley and his crowd.

Just before the committee met, Clyde McMahan was presented with a petition signed by 500 Cocke county Republicans and a telegram stating that there were four other petitions at home with 700 additional signatures, all of which asked him to stand for a primary. These he ignored when voting.

Another feature of the meeting was the fact that the committee refused to accept an amendment to the plan which called for a count of Republicans in the county conventions at any time. This amendment was offered by friends of Congressman Sells.

The committee was called to order by Chairman Shipley. The speech-making began once, after Major Devine had announced that the prospective candidates had been invited to participate. He said that he had talked with Dr. Massey, Judge McHenderson, and Gen. J. B. Cox, and that all of these gentlemen were willing to let the committee decide the question.

After the speeches the first hitch came when O. B. Lovette of Greene county moved that a primary be held on February 12. Chairman Shipley stated that this would be taken up in executive session. Mr. Lovette stated that he knew nothing about any executive session and wanted a vote taken. Mr. Swab moved to table the motion. The vote of the committee stood six and six and then the chairman decided the question. He became very much confused and twice voted contrary to the way he wanted to, and still declared that the motion had been tabled.

As a rebuke to Secretary Lovette for lining up against them, the John I. Cox portion of the committee decided that he ought to have an assistant, and Dr. J. Walter McMahan of Crestmont, N. C., was elected to that position.

Mr. Lovette indignantly announced that he was fully capable of looking after the duties of the office.

Mr. Lovette said that he would inform his assistant that he would not

have anything to do and grabbed every piece of paper off the table and put them where McMahan could not get them, but for some reason the Doctor did not put in an appearance and did not take any part in the meeting, as Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Lovette resisted the efforts of the committee to go into executive session, telling the John I. Cox Republicans that they proposed to let the public see how the committee did business, and finally the effort to go into executive session was abandoned and the vote was taken in the open, the convention being ordered for February 12, 1912, at Greenville.

### CONVENTION PLAN

The plan for a convention involved the following:

Now, therefore, Be it resolved, by the Republican Executive committee, for the First congressional district of Tennessee, in a meeting assembled at Bulls Gap, on this November 4th, 1911, that a delegated convention is hereby called to meet at Greenville at twelve o'clock, noon, Central time, on the 17th day of February, 1912, for the purpose of nominating a republican candidate for congress in said First congressional district of Tennessee, to select two delegates and two alternates to represent the same in the next national republican convention to nominate a candidate for President, to select an elector to reorganize the congressional executive committee, and to transact such other business as may properly and necessarily come before said convention.

Be it further resolved that each of the twelve counties in said congressional district, shall have and be entitled to one delegate for every two hundred votes cast for William H. Taft, for President, in 1908, or fraction thereof over one hundred votes, giving to each of said counties, respectively the following delegated vote in said convention, to-wit:

County.	Delegates.
Carter	16
Clatsop	8
Cocke	9
Grainger	7
Greene	10
Hancock	7
Hawkins	8
Johnson	14
Sevier	16
Sullivan	9
Union	4
Washington	11

Be it further resolved, that the foregoing delegates shall be elected by and at a mass convention to be held and hereby called to meet at the courthouse of each of the respective counties, at noon, on Saturday, the 10th day of February, 1912, to be called to order and be presided over by the congressional committee, or in case of the absence, or inability or refusal to preside, by such person as the chairman of the congressional committee may commission thereto in writing, or if in case no one is so commissioned,

(Continued on Page 8)

## CAN DR. M'MAHAN PROVE HE EVER TOLD THE TRUTH?

The Times last week donated two more columns of its "valuable" space to the McMahan's for the publication of a series of falsehoods regarding certain business dealings of THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK, and Dr. J. Walter McMahan butted into the game, this time over his own signature, and did not make Clyde Mc. Mahan stand for his remarks, as in the case of the first notice. The Doctor says that when we question Clyde's honesty and his truthfulness, that we get on his toes, as he has had Clyde about him all his life. This probably accounts for the unfortunate disposition of his young puppet.

The Doctor says that Clyde McMahan had been advised by Judge Cate not to pay the advertising bill, which we finally had to collect with the aid of a constable.

This we deny, and we challenge the Doctor to produce a written statement from Judge Cate to that effect, and will agree to refund the money paid by Clyde to the constable, on the production of any such signed statement from Judge Cate that he, at any time, ever advised Clyde not to pay his debt.

The Doctor knew he was not telling the truth when he wrote his Times' article. He knew he was not telling the truth when he said we had admitted having done his young puppet an injustice and that we would apologize to him, for the only apology we owe the unfortunate young man, is for having trusted him for a sum of \$25.

It is, apparently, easy for the Doctor to make statements, but it seems difficult for him to make truthful ones. He threatens to expose to the Republicans of Cocke county how we stand on political questions, unless we let up on him and his puppet. We have not devoted two columns of space on the subject, but we believe that the Doctor will find it time to prove something.

## ANOTHER PELLAGRA VICTIM IS DEAD

David Scully of Knoxville Relieved By Death After Year of Suffering.

Knoxville, Nov. 3.—David Scully a victim of dread pellagra, died Wednesday afternoon at 1015 East Front avenue, and his remains have been interred in the Woodlawn cemetery.

The end came after much suffering on the part of the unfortunate man, and endurance of great privations by himself and his family.

He is survived by his faithful wife and one daughter, Julia Scully, who is 11 years of age.

Scully was once a prosperous groceryman, conducting a store on East Main avenue. Some of his customers are among the best people in East Knoxville. His case has attracted wide-spread attention.

The family removed to Knoxville from Newport a few years ago. Scully opened a grocery store. He had means, and his family lived in comfort and their only child, a little girl, had the advantages of many other girls whose parents are prosperous.

They lived in a nice comfortable home. Scully two years ago was stricken with pellagra. The disease was comparatively new in Knoxville then.

He was among the first to be stricken. The disease attracted more alarm than now.

Scully's disease was pronounced pellagra. He decided to dispose of his grocery stock, after a time, when his illness grew worse.

News of the nature of his disease spread among his customers.

His grocery stock was sold at a great sacrifice.

Scully was there reduced to straightened circumstances.

The family was compelled to remove from its home by the landlord, because the neighbors feared the disease.

Scully and his family removed to their present home, a house on the "second banks" of the Tennessee river, on Front avenue, east.

There for over one year Scully suffered and there his faithful wife, with their daughter remained.

The little Scully girl was stricken with typhoid fever last summer and suffered many weeks.

## RIMMER APPOINTED PRISON WARDEN

George F. Clark Made Secretary of Commission and Prison Bookkeeper.

Nashville, Nov. 7.—G. W. Rimmer, deputy warden at the main prison, was appointed warden late Wednesday afternoon by Governor Hooper.

He is a Republican and was when appointed deputy warden, sheriff of Jefferson county.

Simultaneously with this announcement came from J. S. Beasley, chairman of the prison commission, that George F. Clark, democrat, had been appointed secretary to the commission and bookkeeper at the main prison.

The appointments are unique, in that Mr. Rimmer's appointment was almost without solicitation and that it is a recognition of the promotion system for worthy employees.

His strongest endorsers were the convicts themselves who have learned to respect him during the four months that he has been in office.

Mr. Clark was until recently local freight agent of the L. & N. railroad.

It is said his activity in attempting to bring offenders against the prohibition laws to justice about his leaving the L. & N. service.

It is stated that Mr. Clark received a salary of \$2,000 per annum while with the L. & N. His salary from the state will be \$2,400, the highest received by officials at the penitentiary.

## STRONG OPPOSITION TO LOCAL OPTION PLAN

Oklahoma, City, Okla., Nov. 8.—That all of the influence of the Methodist Episcopal church will be thrown against the proposed local option amendment to the Oklahoma constitution was the assurance given today by Bishop Luther B. Wilson, of the National anti-Saloon league, who is secretary of the board of bishops of the Methodist church, now in session here. The amendment would substitute local option for state-wide prohibition. Secretary Wilson, of the department of agriculture, was severely criticised.

## SELLS OPPOSITION WILL CENTER ON DR. MASSEY

Ex-Sheriff John Ness and George Gardner were present at the Republican gathering at Bulls Gap Saturday.

The meeting had much local interest and the action of Committeeman Clyde McMahan in turning down the petition of 1200 voters of this county, who wanted a primary was the cause of much comment Sunday and Monday.

It is said that Congressman Sells stated immediately after the meeting that he was going before the convention which had been called and that he proposed to either whip his opposi-

tion or else force them to rob him. It is generally understood that the calling of convention means that Dr. Z. C. Massey who Sells carried into Congress with him last Fall and who filled Brownlow's unexpired term of a few months, will have the field against Sells.

Other prospective candidates mentioned were Judge McHenderson and Attorney General J. B. Cox, but it was generally understood, among those fighting Mr. Sells, that Dr. Massey would be the candidate on whom the best opposition would enter.

## LEVY \$1600 ASSESSMENT

Fair Association Stockholders Hold a Meeting at the M. & P. Bank.

## THE LEVY IS 40 PER CENT

No Arrangements Were Made for Next Year, Although the Fair for 1912 Was Discussed and Further Plans of Re-organization Will be Decided at a Meeting to Be Held Next March.

Directors of the Fair Association and stockholders met at the Merchants and Planters Bank, Saturday, and learned that there was a shortage in the treasury of something over \$1600 and as a result an assessment of 40 per cent of the capital stock of \$4,000 was levied. While the big deficit of the Association was known before the meeting, the actual assessment was proof positive that the fair was in the hole.

No arrangements for next year were made, although the subject was discussed, and finally the meeting adjourned until next March when the annual meeting will be held and when it is said that the re-organization will be perfected.

Among those at the meeting were the following:

A. R. Swann, Will Stokely, George Murray, Jim Jones, Col. Jno. M. Jones, Ed C. Burnett, J. F. Stanbery, John Stokely, Will Mims and James Stokely.

## M. A. ROADMAN JOINS RANKS OF BENEDICTS

Sunday afternoon, the news became noised about that there was something doing in the way of a wedding, and it was not long until it developed that Dan Cupid had after many years ensnared M. A. Roadman, the popular Main street merchant, and that he had been united in marriage to Miss Nola Allen, the daughter of George Allen.

The ceremony was a quiet one, being performed at the Baptist parsonage by Rev. J. W. O'hara. Few had any inkling of it in advance, and while surprised, it is easy to assure the couple that they have the best wishes of their many friends.

## WOMEN WON FOR RICHESON

Cambridge, Mass. Nov. 8.—While women cried and pleaded that nothing should be done to appear in any way prejudicial to his interests, members of Immanuel Baptist church society tonight voted not to accept at this time the resignation of Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, pastor of the church, now in jail on the charge of murdering Avis Linnell. They decided to lay the matter on the table until November 24.

Women predominated in the attendance and for the most part supported the pastor. Many were crying and some of the men shed tears as the controversy waxed warm. When a ballot was taken, after two hours of discussion, thirty voted against acceptance and fifteen for.

### DANIEL W. LAWLER.

Former Mayor of St. Paul is Candidate For U. S. Senator.

### PATRICK EGAN.

Former Minister to Chile, Who Is In Commercial Life.

